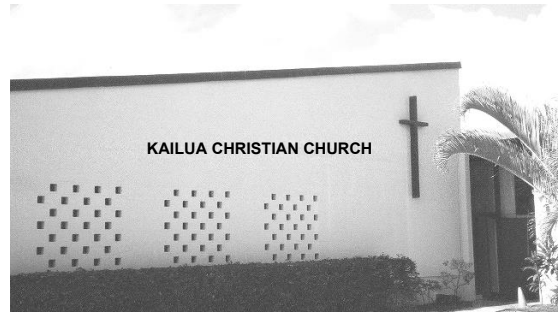


Waves of Faith

Kailua Christian Church (United Church of Christ)
317 Manono Street, Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Chartered 1959 –



FEBRUARY 2023

Volume 38

Issue 02

DEACONS CORNER

TRUST AND WAIT



We wait a year for a birthday or an anniversary. We wait nine months for babies to be born. We wait days to attend a sporting event. We wait minutes for a taxi to arrive. In all that waiting we rarely wait anxiously because we are usually confident in the outcome. The baby will be born, the game will begin, the taxi will arrive, the celebration will be held. Certainty of outcome can make the difference in how we wait.

In life, sometimes we are anxious about the future because we aren't certain of what it holds. And we too often wait anxiously; our heart grows weak with uncertainty and fear. But God knows the future; indeed. His knowledge is unlimited. We may not know the future, but we know Who does. Therefore, we have every reason to wait with courage, certainty, and confidence. God promises to give courage and strength to those who wait upon Him.

Are you looking to the future, unsure of what it holds? Trust in the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-6). Receive His strength for your heart as you wait upon Him.

Submitted by Florence Miyashiro, KCC Deacon

Trust in the
LORD with all your
heart, and do not lean on
your own understanding.
In all your ways
acknowledge him, and
he will make
your paths
straight.
AKT

Five Reasons to Go to Church on Sunday

Our view of Jesus and his church is often filtered through historical, political, and pop-culture lenses. Many see the church as producing cookie-cutter people who follow dominant power structures rather than as a living organism with discipleship and merciful influence in our surrounding communities.

But why should *you* go? Here are five reasons for gathering with believers this weekend.

1. To remind each other who and whose we are.

In a world offering a multiplicity of viewpoints, there is one place that people can find truth (John 8:26). The church is a lighthouse in an ethical fog (Matthew 5:14-16).

My jazz musician father often said of my elementary educator mother, "She always reminds me where 12:00 is." Who helps you find your bearings when you're unsure how to navigate an increasingly complex world? Are you bumbling your way through life, or do you have a steady compass and anchor for your soul (Hebrews 6:19)? We gather with other saints for discipleship, and then are scattered as salt and light in the world as missionaries where we dwell (Matthew 5:13-16; 28:18-20).

2. To remind us that temporal trials we face will have a joyful end.

One of the most impactful funerals I've attended was to support a brother whose mother passed suddenly. Our pastor preached from Ecclesiastes 7:1-2 (NASB):

A good name is better than a good ointment,
And the day of one's death is better than the day
of one's birth.

It is better to go to a house of mourning

Than to go to a house of feasting,
Because that is the end of every man,
And the living takes it to heart.
In those somber moments of reflection on God's word, we were reminded of our own fragility: we will all die, and it could be sooner than we expect. Yet, in that sweet, grace-filled meditation, we were also encouraged to live purposefully and with integrity, considering ultimate reality. We are not to live our best life now, as proclaimed by the prosperity gospel, but we live soberly and prudently to maximize our brief time on earth (Psalm 90:12; Ephesians 5:16).

For Christians, our best life is yet to come (Psalm 16:11).

3. To encourage growth and fight stagnation.

I am blind to my own blindness, and I need the perspective of others who are further along the road to Christlikeness than I am. We are prone to minimize our own faults and focus on others' (Matthew 7:3–5). Close-knit community lovingly urges us toward maturity (Ephesians 4:13–24; John 8:31–32).

4. To spend time with family.

The church isn't primarily a building or a set of programs or strategies. It's a family, with spiritual fathers and sons (1 Corinthians 4:14–17; Titus 2:1–2, 6–8; 1 Timothy 1:1–2), mothers and daughters (Titus 2:3–5). It's a body (1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4) whose neediest members find help (Acts 2:42–47; Acts 6:1–6; 1 Timothy 5:9–16), whose generous ones cheerfully contribute (2 Corinthians 8; Philippians 4:10, 15–18). In this family, each member's participation and gifts are essential for the whole body to thrive (Romans 12:4–8; Ephesians 4:11–16).

When I trusted Christ at age 18, I was only a serial church attender. After my college graduation, I focused on my new job and spending time with my parents during my mother's battle with terminal cancer. When my mother passed away, a co-worker (who was also a pastor's wife) gently encouraged me during that season, "You need a church home, Tiffany. You need aunts and uncles, mothers and fathers." Her words resonated in my soul.

A few months later, I was baptized into a local church. They welcomed me with open arms

and all. Some of my most precious, poignant, and powerful memories involve the family I've found in church. I grew up away from extended family, but I now have a family in my church.

5. To remind us of our living hope.

It's true, some churches have fallen captive to living for the status quo rather than living for the one who undergirds and intertwines himself in human history (Psalm 90:1; John 1:14). This is not the way of the healthy church, however. A church family that is pressing into Jesus's mission is forced to trust God for his presence, power, and provision (Matthew 28:18–20). The church gathers as a reminder that we can only experience fruitful mission when we are tethered to and drawing sustenance from the true vine (John 15). His word is our daily bread.

There are a million good things you and I could do that would hinder us from locking arms with God's people. If you're on the fence: Will you set an alarm with a purpose to join in worshipping God with a local church this weekend? I promise you that as many reasons as you might have not to go, there are even more reasons to trust God, commit, and go every week.

From article: Why Should I Go to Church by Tiffany Johnson, deacon at her church.

Another great reason to go to church...

Meeting wonderful people to call extended ohana!



Maikai, Kauila, Drew, Tim, Deidre, Kupaa, Tyler, Kamalu, and Amanda



Such a delight to see Tim and Deidre Harrison's ohana still growing!

PRAYERS & PRAISES**Please keep in your prayers**

~ Healing of Pastor Gary Augustin from hip surgery and then a broken femur.
 ~ Healing for NM from health issues.
 ~ Stella Wakamatsu
 ~ Jerry & Gwen Lee, Stella's son-in-law and daughter.
 ~ Pastor J.R. Cuevas, healing of his eye.
 ~ Pastor Warren and Lynne Nakano
 ~ Dot Suzuki ~ Kira Chong
 ~ Reggie & Myra Yamada ~ Nani Oda
 ~ John Sakamoto's son-in-law, Tony Sarabia and Tony's wife, Coreen (John's daughter)
 ~ Myrtle & Lowell Terada continued health
 ~ Danica Fong and her mom, Vici
 ~ Warren Imada ~ Sharon Mon
 ~ Henry Tom ~ Lily & Winchell Lee
 ~ Sharon Nishihira ~ Steve Hammann
 ~ Sharon's friend, Erin
 ~ Larry & Sandra Siu ~ Otsu Ohana
 ~ Dennis & Maureen Nakashima
 ~ Damien Wong ~ Karen Shimizu
 ~ Jiggs Tamashiro, Walter Yeda, Brian Nakashima, Harry Imai, Hazel Masuda, Carl Nemoto, Jean Kanazawa, Ruth & Harrison Lum, and all our families dealing with high risk factors along with the rest of our church family.
 Alice Esaki's brother, Albert Nakaji
 ~ Vernon's friend, Clarence Ching
 ~ For the family of Florence's friend Pauline who passed away.
 ~ Asencio family on loss of father to cancer.
 ~ Zoom Worship Team and in-person worship.
 ~ Prayers for our Pastoral Search Committee
 ~ Carmen Kelly and Family, Esau and Jacob and husband, Ken who lives in Tennessee.



Carmen Kelly sent a warm aloha all the way from Tennessee. It was great to hear from Carmen after all this time. She works at Penny's and her husband, Ken and the boys Esau and Jacob are doing okay. She is grateful for the newsletter that keeps her up on all her KCC Ohana.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Keelyn Higashi
 Milla Higashi
 Kyle Nakamoto
 Andrew Young
 Mildred T Sakamoto
 Reggie Yamada
 Jonathan Fong
 Mark Kanazawa
 Andrew Wakuzawa
 Kupaa Harrison
 Dot Suzuki
 Barney Pilla
 Debbie Fong
 Eliot St. John
 John Tamashiro
 Kamalu Miller
 Keith Schultz
 Florence Miyashiro
 Marisa Yamada



In special remembrance of Mildred Sachiko Sakamoto Born 11th of February.

12....Liloe & Molly Hagmann



Congratulations to proud parents, Phil & Marie and delighted grandparents, Aaron and Colette Tanaka on the arrival of their first grandson, Andrew Young. We thank God for the safe and healthy condition of both mother and baby. Andrew was born on Feb. 3rd.





NA ANELA I KA HANA A KE AKUA

(Angels in the Works for God)

LEARNING IS LIFELONG!

Please save the next two dates on your calendar for Na Anela's 2023 five remaining bi-monthly meetings:

03/25/23, CPR-AED Refresher Training w/AED

Institute of America, Local HI chapter

05/27/23, Joyful Nutrition with Dietician Carolyn Hamatake

Pastor Warren Nakano relayed an outstanding and inspiring True Faith message on Jan 28 at KCC's sanctuary and via Zoom. Thirty one members and friends were blessed with his message and cancer journey. Recording of Pastor Warren's True Faith and his amazing God-led cancer journey (27 months) will be made available. Details will be announced at a later date!



Pastor Warren asked that we thank everyone for coming, listening, praying, blessing him and others with your hearts and comments and sharing your prize foods and gifts with him.

He asked that we please send his love and thanks to all who came and who were on Zoom! He added *—May the Lord bless each one to have true faith in the Lord, not faith in the outcome they want, but trusting in His will, so that they can dwell securely in His care and use their time to be invested in caring for others and calling them to truly follow Christ!*

(Mahalo to John Sakamoto for offering this photo Via Zoom for this joyous occasion.)

If you are interested in Chef Dan's **Fast, Healthy and Ono** (past) series of cooking sessions, go to: [Aarp.cvent.com/hicooking](https://aarp.cvent.com/hicooking). You will be taken to a screen that shows a registration button. Click on it and you will see his AARP cooking sessions (recipes and recordings) from Sept 2020 through June 26, 2022.

This popular AARP/WCC cooking program's videos and recipes are still available to anyone.

St. Francis Healthcare System's Caregiver Education and Wellness Series continue to provide excellent caregiving and health/wellness classes for the community.

St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii's Caregiver Education and Wellness Series. **NEW PROCEDURES TO SIGN UP FOR CLASSES:**

1. Review the class descriptions and scheduled time. Please note there are view options: Course View or Calendar View.
2. Select as many classes as you wish to sign up for by clicking on the **"ADD TO CART"** button under each class description.
3. Once you've selected the classes, scroll back to the top of the page and select **"MY CART"** (top right).
4. Select **"GO TO CHECKOUT"** on the pop-up window.
5. Fill out your name and contact info and then click **"CONFIRM"**.
6. **DONE!** A confirmation email with the Zoom links to each of the classes you registered for will be sent to your email address. Contact Melissa Caballes if you have questions or are having difficulty enrolling; 808-547-8138; mcaballes@stfrancishawaii.org. **If this is your first time signing up for classes, please contact me. I will send you the email from Melissa Caballes which has the actual registration bar).**

Individual Classes:

Feb 07 – Mar 14: Tue, 1 – 2:30 pm; Forgiveness and Mindfulness: Living with Memory Loss; 6 weeks class

Feb 11: Sat, 9-10:30 am; Parkinson's Up close and Personal

Feb 21: Tue, 10:30 am – Noon; Understanding Hawaii's Long Term Care Options

Feb 21: Tue, 5 – 6 pm; Difference Between Normal Aging Memory Loss and Dementia

Weekly Session Classes:

Feb 01- 22: Wed, 10 – 11 am; Empower You! (designed for people with Parkinson's)

Feb 01 – 22: Mon and Wed, 5:15 – 6:30 pm; Zumba by Frances (in-person); no class on 2/20

Feb 02 -22: Thu, 11 am – 12 noon; Tripudio Movement System with Ellie (lymphatic and fascial system)

Feb 04 – 25: Sat, 8 – 9 am; Zumba Gold by Frances (in-person)

Feb 06 – 27: Mon, 8 – 9 am; Big Moves Monday!; no classes on 2/13 and 2/20

Feb 07 - 28: Tue, 9 – 10 am; Body and Brain Yoga Tai Chi

Note: *In-person sessions will be held at Senior Community Center at the Kupuna Village in Liliha.*

Contact me at yamadamyra@hawaii.rr.com or call (808) 348-2297 if you have questions.

Please be healthy and invest your time and energy in any one of these free and informative classes.

Mahalo and God Bless! Myra

MISSIONS NEWS

As we begin the new year with special offerings, we come to ask for your kind consideration to the **UCC Christmas Fund Offering** (previously known as the Veteran's of the Cross Offering). The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the UCC for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to lower-income retirees.

This Fund is managed by the Pension Boards and is one of the five UCC offerings we support each year around in February as a Love Offering.

If you would like to give to this special offering, please make checks out to KCC and note in the memo line, UCC Christmas Fund. Your kind consideration and generosity will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Help us remind those who have cared for others throughout their ministries that they are appreciated and we will be there when they need us just as they were there when we needed them.

We will receive this offering throughout the month of February. A Big MAHALO!



WORSHIP NEWS

by Gail Yoneshige

It is with a joyful heart and eager anticipation that I humbly come to serve as your worship committee chairperson. We are looking forward to gathering once again as a family of our loving and almighty God, our Father. There is nothing more glorifying to God than to have us worship together in spirit and in truth, sing praises to Jesus and join together in fellowship! Come. Bring a friend and volunteer to be an usher, greeter, scripture reader, singer, musician, tech support person, altar flower arranger, refreshment set up/clean up person or whatever else you think would be pleasing to God. I am open to suggestions to enhance our worship so please share your ideas with me.

“Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.” Psalm 145:3

10 Ways To Love

1. Promise without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:12)
2. Answer without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
3. Listen without interrupting. (Proverbs 18)
4. Give without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
5. Trust without wavering. (1 Corinthians 13:7)
6. Share without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. Enjoy without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. Pray without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
9. Forgive without punishing. (Colossians 3:13)
10. Speak without accusing. (James 1:19)

Kailua Christian Church (UCC)
317 Manono St. Kailua, HI 96734-2211
Ph: (808) 261-0125
Email: kailuacch@gmail.com
Website: www.kailuachristianchurch.org

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
OUR GUEST PASTORS
FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**



Feb. 05 – Dr. Gary Augustin

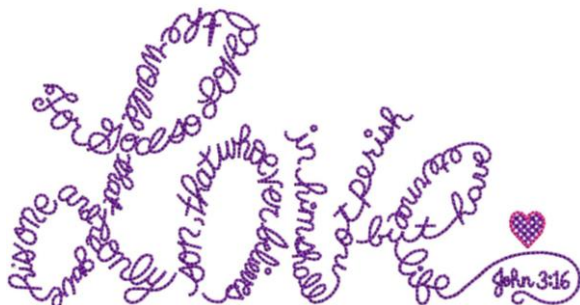
Feb. 12 – Pastor Les Araki

Feb. 19 – Pastor Sam Domingo

Feb. 26 – Dr. Ruby Ovitt



Happy Valentine's Day



ASH WEDNESDAY marks the beginning of the 40-day Lenten season in which Christians around the world observe a period of reflection, prayer and fasting before the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.. This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 22. Most Christian denominations would recognize Holy Saturday (the day before Easter Sunday).as the end of the Lenten season.

HOLY WEEK is the week that starts with **PALM SUNDAY**, April 2, 2023. It commemorates the last eight days of Jesus' life on earth. It includes Maundy Thursday (the Last Supper, the washing of the disciples' feet, and when Jesus command this His followers love one another), Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

EASTER SUNDAY (April 9, 2023) is one of the most celebrated days on the Christian calendar. We celebrate the ressurection of Jesus Christ from the dead. By this, He conquered death and He, the son of God paid the price for our sins and rose again to reconcile us to God.

We hope you will take time to celebrate these special times in this lenten season this year.

